

**CLAIMS**

1. A computerized content management system comprising:
  - a receiving queue for receiving content;
  - a content staging unit, coupled to the receiving queue, and including an operating system to (i) validate the content for format consistency and verify its accuracy and (ii) process the content from a first format to a second format defined by the content management system;
  - a content storage unit, coupled to the content staging unit, and including an operating system to receive the validated and verified content for use by an application utilized within a computerized content management system.
2. The invention according to claim 1 wherein the content staging unit, while validating the content, further checks for description file information and provides such description file information, if missing.
3. The invention according to claim 2 wherein the content staging unit provides identity of the of the description file after checking.
4. The invention according to claim 1 wherein the content includes a content item having a search hierarchy and the staging unit cleanses the content item to ensure the content item and its search hierarchy are reliably linked.
5. The invention according to claim 4 wherein the content staging unit determines the search hierarchy of the content item and assigns the content item to the identified hierarchy.
6. The invention according to claim 1 wherein the content staging unit checks whether meta-data associated with the content is consistent with a previously defined format for the system.
7. The invention according to claim 1 further comprising a content error zone, coupled to the content staging unit, to receive any content item failing validation.
8. The invention according to claim 1 wherein the content staging unit notifies the content provider if the content failed validation.
9. The invention according to claim 1 wherein the content staging unit maintains a prior valid version of the content for access by the user should the content fail validation.
10. A method of controlling content accessed by an end user within a shared content environment, the method comprising:
  - receiving at least one content item from a content provider;

5 checking for description file information;  
backfilling information within the description file if missing;  
determining if the content item is valid;  
copying the content item with an associated description file within an archive;  
importing the description file to a content holding database; and  
sending valid content to a holding zone.

11. A method of providing error control of content accessed by an end user within a shared content environment, the method comprising:

receiving at least one content item from a content provider with the intent of

making available the content item to an end user;

validating the content item is error-free;

making the valid content item available to the content provider for access to the end-user.

12. The method according to claim 11 wherein the validating step comprises cleansing the content item to ensure the content item and its search hierarchy are reliably linked.

13. The method according to claim 11 wherein the validating step comprises archiving the content item.

14. The method according to claim 11 wherein the validating step comprises:  
determining the hierarchy of the content item; and  
assigning the content item to the identified hierarchy.

15. The method according to claim 11 wherein the validating step comprises checking meta-data associated with the content item is consistent with a previously defined format for the system.

25 16. The method according to claim 11 further comprising moving the content item  
to an error zone upon lack of validation.

17. The method according to claim 11 further comprising notifying the content provider that the content item failed validation.

18. The method according to claim 11 further comprising maintaining a prior valid version of the content item for access by the user should the content item fail validation.